

***IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE***

Applicants: Noboru MAKI *et al.*  
Title: HBV PRECORE PROTEIN HAVING A  
PARTICLE-FORMING ABILITY  
Appl. No.: 10/526,744  
International Filing Date: 09/05/2003  
371(c) Date: 03/25/2005  
Examiner: Peng, Bo  
Art Unit: 1648  
Confirmation Number: 7902

**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Advisory Action of February 3, 2009 and the Office Action of July 21, 2008, and follows the Notice of Appeal filed January 16, 2009. This communication accompanies a Request for Continued Examination and qualifies as a “submission” under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 5 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: